

SCITUATE BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
Minutes from Meeting April 18, 2023
Scituate Town Library – Large Conference Room

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM. Present were S. Casey, S. Humphrey, H. Kimball, K. McCormack, L. Powers, M. Tennaro, J. Voelger and S. Hofmeister (Friends of North Scituate Village). Absent L. Diemel. M. Palleiko is present at the Community Forum .

II. Town of Scituate Commitment Statement to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion: M. Tennaro made a motion to approve the minutes of March 21, 2023. S. Casey seconded. All were in favor.

IV. Ship Shape Day – J. Voelger gave a status on Ship Shape Day (SSD).

1. UnTold Brewing's upcycled grain bags were displayed. They will be sold for \$5 (small) and \$10 (large) during an event at the brewery on Saturday the 6th. Proceeds will be donated to SBC. The bags, with flowers inside, will be displayed at SSD with a sign indicating the donation and where/when to purchase. The brewery also offered space at another event on April 29th so that the SBC could display information. S. Humphrey and S. Casey will provide the table/display.
2. Publicity is almost completed. Kim Peters has been contacted to post information in PeachJar. The Senior Center and Town Hall will hang posters. A poster will be at the SBC table at the Earth Day celebration at the GAR Hall on the 21st. Small posters will be distributed around town this weekend. The banner at Town Hall will also go up this weekend. The Town Hall will send out an e-mail blast. And, DPW will announce on the Transfer Station board.
3. The Town will put the large Marigolds up at Town Hall a few days before SSD.
4. J. Voelger presented an updated bookmark. After a discussion, it was decided that this would not be distributed this year and the design and distribution will be reviewed for next year.

5. A sticker for SSD participants designed by S. Casey, "I Picked up Trash," was shown. It was decided that a roll of stickers vs individual would be the best method for distribution.
6. On the day of the event, if grabbers are not returned by 1PM, they can be returned for deposit at the DPW office in the Town Hall.
7. J. Voelger created an SSD flyer including information about Nona's Ice Cream Truck and the Plant Scituate Marigold lottery. This can be used by anyone for various purposes.
8. S. Humphrey indicated that the Garden Club will be involved again. They will bring their own table and chairs.
9. David Bortolotto from CERT has offered four volunteers from his team.
10. DPW has requested that we not hand out recycling specific bags. At past SSDs, trash and recycling has been frequently mixed.

V. Plant Scituate

S. Humphrey mentioned that she and M. Palleiko will attend the Historical Society's Earth Day celebration this coming Saturday. They will be handing out SBC flyers and brochures as well as inviting children to plant marigold seeds.

Motion: H. Kimball made a motion to spend up to \$75 for Marigold flats to be used at SSD for the Marigold lottery. J. Voelger seconded. All were in favor.

VI. Standing Reports

- A. Treasurer – S. Humphrey reported that the budget balance was \$19,394. The Coastal Excavating contract and SSD expenses still need to be paid. The SBC was awarded \$32,500 for next year's budget.
- B. Adopt-a-Lot (AaL) Program –
 1. M. Tennaro mentioned that Bloomin Place would offer a 10% landscapers discount on native shrubs for the new Widow's Walk AaL. The garden will be designed by M. Tennaro and K. McCormack. The "Hole in One" sculpture will be incorporated. *Motion:* M. Tennaro made a motion to spend \$1,200 on the sculpture. S. Humphrey seconded. All but one in favor.

2. M. Tennaro announced that the window boxes were up and looked great. *Motion:* M. Tennaro made a motion to spend \$100 on soil for the boxes. J. Voelger seconded. All were in favor.
 3. There was a reminder about the Blue Stem Native plant presentation at the Senior Center on Thursday. M. Tennaro mentioned that Blue Stem would offer a discount after \$250 was spent. There was an inconclusive discussion on how to incorporate natives in to AaLs. However, all were in favor of this. S. Casey made a motion to spend up to \$250 at Blue Stem Natives. K. McCormack seconded. All were in favor.
- C. Social Media – S. Casey indicated that more pictures have been posted to the town’s website. More are coming with upcoming blooming and SSD.
- D. Railroad Crossings and Islands – K. McCormack reported that a state safety citation was received in reference to the garden at 3A and First Parish Rd. She is looking in to a redesign to meet state regulations. It was also mentioned that Coastal Excavations has not yet been confirmed as the new caretakers of the AaL at the intersection of Branch St and Country Way.
- E. Merchant Program – L. Powers mentioned that the merchant program will run May 15 – June 12. Volunteers will be needed in May to hand out the letter with coupon.

VII. Old Business – Special project ideas were discussed.

- A. S. Hofmeister provided a status on the Friends of North Scituate landscaping project at the historical train canopy. Funding for lighting and picnic tables was approved at the Town Meeting. Kennedy’s was consulted on landscaping and they recommended pulling up all the gravel, putting in fresh soil and mulch, and planting drought resistant natives. There is concern about watering. Planting would occur in the Fall and either the town water truck or rain barrels could provide the water. The Friends obtained a quote of \$4,100 to do the prep work for plantings. The Friends will be getting more estimates. *Motion:* S. Casey made the motion to fund the project up to \$4,100 with the idea that the cost may be part of the 2024 budget. S. Humphrey seconded. All were in favor.
- B. M. Tennaro brought forth the idea of the Stephen Tooker Memorial Garden. Mr. Tooker’s home is being sold and has many special lilies on site. At Mrs. Tooker’s and the realtor’s approval, some of these would be

dug up and replanted on the Senior Center Grounds in a new garden. M. Tennaro and Ariel McCloud (Tooker's neighbor) will move and replant the lilies. The ground needs to be prepared for the garden. It is possible that DPW may be able to do this. If not, quotes will be obtained. Motion: M. Tennaro made a motion to support the historical memorial lily garden at the senior center. H. Kimball seconded. All were in favor.

C. Due to time restrictions, a discussion on the request to plant a new tree at the Greenbush Rotary will happen at the next meeting.

VIII. New Business

With little time left, S. Humphrey asked if commissioners would like to provide comment on the placement of a statue on the common. There was a small discussion.

IX. Notes

S. Humphrey will be absent at the next meeting.

X. Adjournment

Motion: H. Kimball made a motion to adjourn at 8:55 PM. Seconded by M. Tennaro. All were in favor. The next scheduled meeting is May 16, 2023.

Respectfully submitted, H. Kimball